



Serial No. 09/676,380
Docket No. 99-057

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Applicant: Baron et al. : **SOLUBLE EPIDERMAL GROWTH
FACTOR RECEPTOR-LIKE
PROTEINS AND THEIR USES
IN CANCER DETECTION METHODS**
Serial No. 09/676,380 :
Filed: 09/29/2000 :
Examiner: C. Borgeest :
Art Unit 1649 :
Atty Docket No. 99-057 :

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
June 25, 2007**

RESPONSE

On March 27, 2007, the Examiner mailed a Final Action for the above-captioned application. The Action indicated that claims 18-31 are allowable but claims 9-17 are rejected on the basis of obviousness under 35 USC §103(a).

Applicants' cancel the rejected claims 9-17 leaving only the allowable claims 18-31 in consideration for allowance.

REMARKS

In anticipation of a notice of allowance for the allowable claims, Applicants have carefully reviewed the specification. Because several typographical and grammatical errors were discovered in the specification as well as other minor edits and clarifications,

Applicants submit a substitute specification herewith including both a marked up copy and a clean copy. Applicants clarified in the substitute specification the naming of the soluble EGFR (sEGFR), which is also commonly known as soluble ErbB1 (sErbB1) as well as soluble HER1 (sHER1) in the art. All of the amendments are minor edits and do not include new matter.

With this timely response to the final rejection, Applicants submit a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and 35 U.S.C. §132(b) with the applicable fee and request that the final rejection be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully request that these amendments be entered and a notice of allowance for previously allowable claims 18-31.

Respectfully submitted,

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